

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. An optical head apparatus, on an optical path of a light beam between an objective lens and an information recording medium, comprising:

5 an immersion lens to increase a numerical aperture in the light beam;

a movement unit for moving said immersion lens in the direction to separate thereof from the information recording medium corresponding to a control signal;

10 a detector for detecting a foreign material fitted onto the surface of the information recording medium; and

a controller for outputting the control signal to separate said immersion lens to the higher position than the height of the foreign material by said movement unit.

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2. The optical head apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein said movement unit includes a magnetic field generator for generating the magnetic field of the intensity corresponding to the control signal, and a magnet integrally provided with 20 said immersion lens, and

said controller outputs the control signal to generate the magnetic force to separate said immersion lens to the higher position than the height of the foreign material to said magnetic field generator corresponding to the detection result of said 25 detector.